

the Legislature, we welcome you all to the proceedings this morning. Glad you are here. Chair recognizes Senator Warner. Under discussion is LB 299 (sic), 290 rather, 290.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I guess my position in many respects are similar to others that have already been expressed. I guess I would as soon see this bill just stay on General File for now. The sole reason is the cost. It isn't because one institution is selected or another is not. It's already been said a number of times this is not unique. Groups have been selected out, over the years, a number of times. I think the initial approach to this was the reserve teachers act which was some time in the '50s, if I remember right. So it's not an unusual approach. It's been pointed out the aspect was included last year in a bill that many of us voted for. But the problem is solely one...and, by the way, this cost for this particular group, obviously, becomes less each year, not more, because the numbers covered are reduced every year. But I, too, have the realization that the funds, as things now stand, are not there. The gap, I don't know what the gap is currently, but, roughly, if you look at the bills that the Legislature has already acted upon by killing, and you look at the continuation budget, we've got a gap between revenue and expenditures with no A bills, no new programs, no increases of any kind of anything. You've got a gap of not less than \$15 million between revenue and receipts. Somewhere that money has got to come. It could be more than that. So everything that adds makes the gap greater. That may well be, by the end of the session, that you all decide to resolve that gap and some of these things maybe then can be looked at and done. But I don't think now is the time to start building that pressure, with a lot of bills on Final Reading, with that impact. They probably are best held on General File until much later in the session.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Warner. Chair would like to announce also that Senator Conway has guests under the north balcony, this morning, from his district. Mr. Dick Brown and Neil McLuhan. We welcome you to the Legislature. Now then Senator Haberman, do you have anything more to say on this bill? Senator Labedz, your lights are on. Senator Wesely, do you have something to say on this bill? Senator Harris, I guess it is up to you to close.

SENATOR HARRIS: Thank you, Mr. President.